

Facility Information

Name: City of Tensed
Contact: Robert Hartsock, Operator
Type: Sanitary Services (SIC 4950)
Physical Address: off the end of 3rd Street to the south of town
Mailing Address: 311 "C" Street, Tensed, ID 83870
Phone Number: (208) 274-3239
Fax Number: Same as phone
Permit Number: ID-002510-1

Inspection Information

Date: July 26, 2011
Entry Time: 3:00 pm
Exit Time: 4:30 pm
Inspector(s): Jennifer Wester (Idaho DEQ-State Office)
Facility Personnel: Faith Harvey (Mayor, City of Tensed), Robert Hartsock (Operator, City of Tensed),
Norm Suenkel (Benewah County)
Report Author: Jennifer Wester (Idaho DEQ-State Office)
Inspection Type: Announced CEI
Weather: Mostly sunny, around 80°F
Purpose: Determination of compliance with NPDES Permit #ID-002510-1 and the Clean Water Act.

Owner/Operator Information

Owner: City of Tensed
Operator: Robert Hartsock

Inspection Entry

I arrived at the facility at 3:00 pm to meet Mayor Harvey and Mr. Hartsock from the City of Tensed and Mr. Suenkel, who represented Benewah County. No credentials were presented as I have not yet received any; however I showed my DEQ identification badge and left copies of my business card. I explained that DEQ has a contract with EPA to perform a number of NPDES inspections each year. Access was granted to inspect and photograph the wastewater treatment system and operation records.

Background

The City of Tensed has a population of approximately 100 persons. The wastewater treatment system consists of two lagoons. The facility is located south of the city, approximately 300 feet northeast of Hangman (Latah) Creek. The site is gated with no enclosed structures. The control panel for the lift station is located under an awning. During the spring of 2011, flooding of Hangman (Latah) Creek brought water within a couple feet of the top of the lagoon berms on the south side, nearest the creek. Hangman (Latah) Creek is the receiving water for Outfall 001. There are no other outfalls from the facility.

Waste Management Process

Wastewater from the residents and commercial properties in Tensed are collected via gravity lines to a lift station located adjacent to the lagoons. The lift station pumps the collected material into the east facultative lagoon. As the wastewater makes its way through the first and second lagoons, it passes through both aerobic and anoxic treatment zones. Disinfection is accomplished by passing through a tablet chlorinator and chlorine contact chamber. Excess chlorine is allowed to dissipate in the final settling pond prior to discharge. Influent samples are taken from the lift station and effluent samples are collected from the final weir (see Figures 17 and 18 of the photo log in Appendix 1).

Scope of the Inspection

During the inspection, I reviewed the facility permit and records, treatment site, operations and maintenance and discharge point. Sample collection was not evaluated at the time of the inspection. While flow meters were discussed, no calibration records were examined. Sludge handling processes and procedures were not evaluated at the time of the inspection.

Records Review

As shown in Figures 1 through 3 of Appendix 1, I reviewed the most recent Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) (May 2011) and associated documentation. Hard copies of DMR data submitted by the permittee are kept in a binder at the community building. The operating log sheet (Figure 2) showed the data recorded for each day since 2006. The data included pump hour readings and run times as well as effluent flow estimates (using a bucket and stopwatch) and monitoring sample times. Figure 3 shows the calculations done by the operator in filling out the DMR for May 2011. The calculations appear to have been done correctly and there were no discrepancies noted between the recorded and reported data.

The Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) was assembled approximately three years ago and the office copy was missing six (6) of the eight (8) appendices.

The operation and maintenance (O&M) manual for the permittee is dated 2001 and contains operating procedures and manuals for current treatment system equipment. I suggested that the QAP and O&M manuals be evaluated and updated as necessary with the new permit.

Receiving Water

The City of Tensed discharges to Hangman (Latah) Creek which is tributary to the Spokane River. Photos 19 and 20 show the area near Outfall 001 and slightly upstream, respectively. I was unable to access the outfall due to barbed wire fence.

Areas of Concern

Permit Section I.D.3: At the time of the inspection, the QAP was incomplete and missing most of the appendices. One of the missing items was the sample locations map. I communicated this to Mr. Hartsock and Mayor Harvey during review of the QAP.

The permit status report included in Appendix 2 shows that the facility has exceeded some of the requirements of permit #ID-002510-1 in 2011, most recently one excursion of the effluent E. coli

NPDES Inspection Report

monthly average concentration (January 2011), and two excursions of the E. coli weekly average concentration (January and May 2011). The report was supplied by Stacy Erickson (EPA) on August 2, 2011.

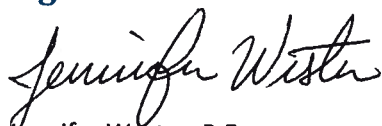
Closing Conference

The closing conference took place after observing the treatment lagoons with Mayor Harvey (Tensed), Robert Hartsock (Tensed), and Jennifer Wester (DEQ-Technical Services). I reviewed the recommendations to update the O&M Manual and compile a complete copy of the QAP. I exited the facility at 4:30 pm.

Attachments

1. Photo Log
2. Permit Status Report dated August 2, 2011

Signature and Date



Jennifer Wester, P.E.
Idaho DEQ

8/17/2011

TRIM Record: 2011AGF2209